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The Marine Corps units under the East China Military Area Naval Command have recently been acquiring additional Soviet equipment. Formerly marines had the same equipment as the Chinese Communist field armies, without heavy weapons. The Marine Corps units stationed at Shanghai were first to receive Soviet weapons. They have 28 Soviet automatic rifles per company, one rocket platoon, equipped with 76 mm (sic) rocket launchers, per battalion, and one howitzer company per regiment. Similar equipment will be issued all East China Marine Corps units before the end of June.

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